

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 028607
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

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R 022343Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 028607

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM NEA/ARN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, SY

SUBJECT: SYRIAN JEWRY

1. TO KEEP YOU IN PICTURE RE SHALOM'S TRAVEL PLANS, HIS
SECRETARY CALLED HOWELL FEB. 2 TO SEEK ADVICE RE OBTAINING
SECOND PPTS FOR SHALOM'S WIFE AND MOTHER. SHALOM PLANS TO
VISIT DAMASCUS O/A MARCH 10 ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE AND MOTHER.
HE WILL APPARENTLY LEAVE US FOR ISRAEL IN MID-FEBRUARY.
WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED AS HIS TRAVEL PLANS ARE FIRMED UP.

2. HOWELL TOOK OCCASION OF PHONE CALL TO INQUIRE RE STATUS
OF MARRIAGE PETITIONS SHALOM HAS PROMISED. SECRETARY SAID
SHE IS WORKING ON THEM AND AT PRESENT HAS 16 PROCESSED
THROUGH LOCAL AND STATE AUTHORITIES. SHE SAID SHALOM HOPES
TO COLLECT APPROXIMATELY 40 PETITIONS BEFORE FORWARDING
THEM TO US. HOWELL SUGGESTED THAT EFFORT BE MADE TO EX-
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PAGE 02 STATE 028607

PEDITE PROCESS SINCE LACK OF PROGRESS COULD INDUCE INTERES-
TED BUT UNINFORMED PERSONS TO MAKE UNHELPFUL PUBLIC STATE-
MENTS WITHOUT REALIZING WHERE BOTTLENECK IS. SHE SAID SHE
UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD REDOUBLE EFFORTS TO COLLECT FURTHER
PETITIONS. VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** ONLY, STADIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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